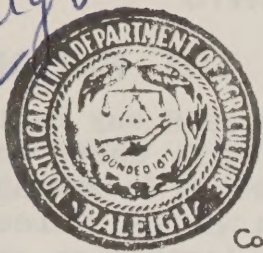


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NORTH CAROLINA



Cooperative Crop Reporting Service



No. 197

RALEIGH, N. C.

DECEMBER 14, 1955

N. C. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 22 POINTS

ALL CROPS INDEX DOWN 9 PERCENT

Lower prices received by North Carolina farmers on November 15, 1955 for tobacco, cotton, soybeans, corn, wheat, apples, hogs, beef cattle, and veal calves were primarily responsible for the decline in the 'All Farm Products' index of prices received by farmers during the month ended November 15, 1955.

The November index of 273 compares with a index of 291 a year earlier and

(Continued on Page 2)

MEAT ANIMALS DROP U. S.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

Sharply lower hog and cattle prices were primarily responsible for a 2 percent (5 point) drop in the Prices Received Index during the month ended November 15. The November 15 index, at 225 percent of its 1910-14 average, was 7 percent below a year earlier. Price changes during the past month for most other commodities were relatively small, with corn and cotton prices declining and with milk, potatoes, some fruits, and some commercial vegetables increasing. The Crop Index remained unchanged during the month while

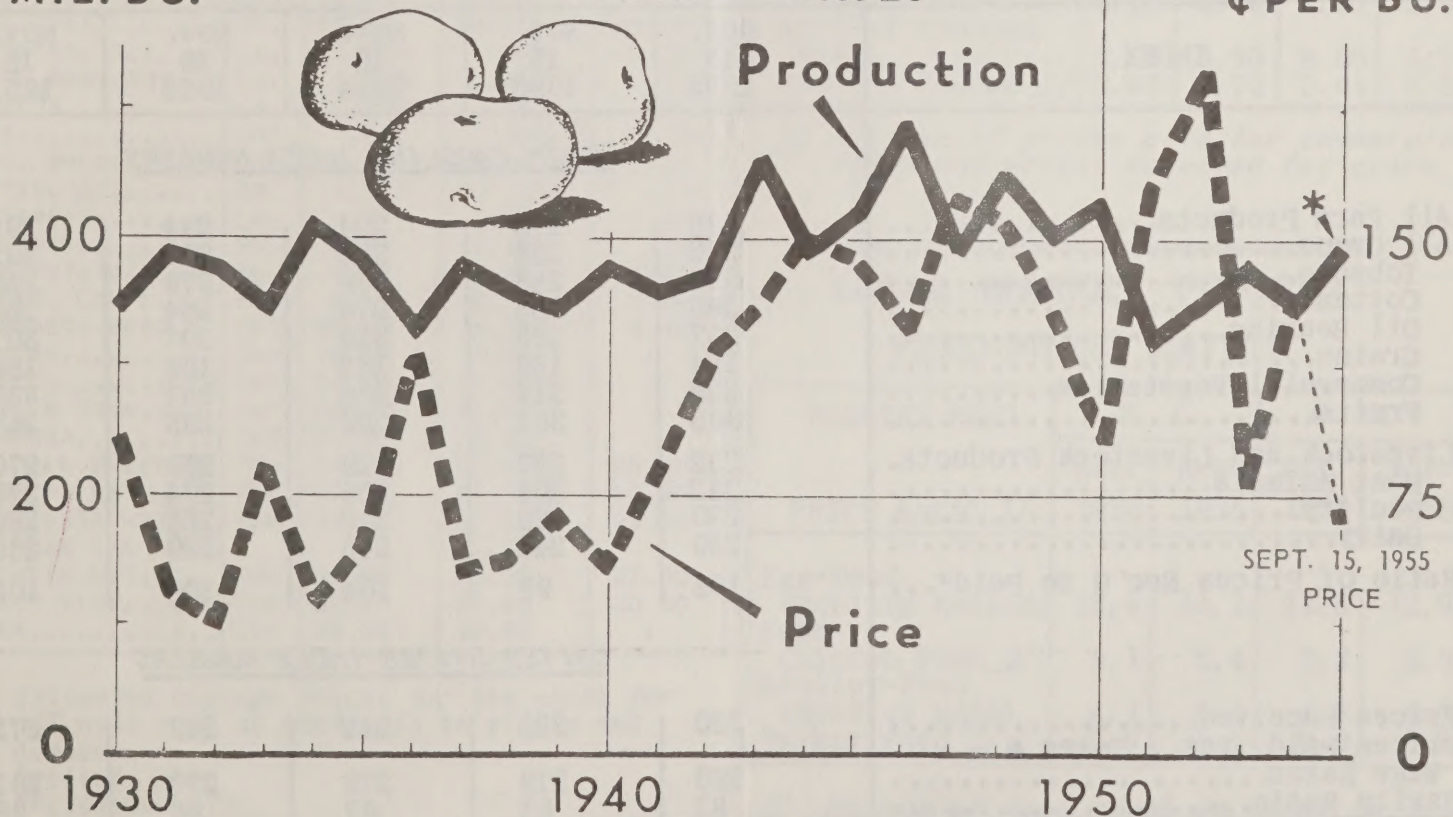
(Continued on Page 2)

POTATO PRODUCTION AND PRICES

MIL. BU.

UNITED STATES

¢ PER BU.



* INDICATIONS AS OF SEPTEMBER 1

N. C. PRICES (Continued)

an index of 294 on November 15, 1953.

The Livestock and Livestock Products Index of 227 is the lowest index recorded for the month since November of 1945.

U. S. PRICES (Continued)

the Livestock and Livestock Products Index declined 5 percent. These indexes were 8 and 7 percent, respectively, lower than a year earlier.

Reductions in prices paid by farmers for commodities bought resulted in a 1/3 of 1 percent (1 point) downturn in the Parity Index (Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates) during the month ended November 15. This returned the index to 279, The same as in September and in November of last year. Prices paid for both living and production goods declined during the month, with feeder livestock, food for the family, and livestock feed leading the decline.

With the Index of Prices Received by farmers declining more than the Parity Index, the Parity Ratio declined 1 percent to 81 as of November 15. This was 7 percent under a year ago and the lowest ratio recorded since October 1940.

COMMODITY HIGHLIGHTS

FOR THE NATION

Prices of cattle in 1956 may begin a gradual cyclical recovery; sheep and lamb prices also are expected to average as high next year as in 1955. Prices of hogs will probably be lower than the previous year in the first half of 1956, but will compare more favorably later and for the year may average not much below 1955.

Milk production and consumption in 1956 are both likely to be above this year's levels. Prices to farmers are not likely to change much in the coming year and cash receipts will likely average slightly higher.

Farm production of eggs, chickens, and turkeys are all expected to be larger in 1956 than in 1955. Prices may average a little lower than this year.

The supply of feed grains and other concentrates is at a record high of 197 million tons for the 1955-56 season. Feed prices are expected to average lower in 1955-56 feeding season than in 1954-55.

Prices received by growers for fresh vegetables this fall will probably be above last fall; supplies are somewhat smaller than a year ago. Because of

(Continued on Page 6)

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS *

INDEX	Oct. 15 1955	Nov. 15 1955	Nov. 15 1954	Nov. 15 1953	Nov. 15 1952
<u>NORTH CAROLINA INDEX NUMBERS</u>					
All Farm Products.....	295	273	291	294	295
All Crops.....	313	286	308	303	302
Tobacco.....	398	356	379	379	359
Cotton.....	260	256	276	264	289
Oil Bearing.....	297	285	339	301	307
Grains.....	154	138	182	168	189
Commercial Vegetables.....	208	214	236	241	350
Fruits.....	365	362	280	285	248
Livestock and Livestock Products.....	232	227	229	259	270
Meat Animals.....	232	208	258	274	270
Poultry.....	230	229	200	266	280
Dairy.....	239	244	245	239	260
Ratio of Prices Rec'd to Paid*...	105	98	104	106	105
<u>UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS</u>					
Prices Received.....	230	225	242	249	275
Prices Paid, Int., Taxes & Wage Rates.....	280	279	279	277	282
Parity Ratio.....	82	81	87	90	98

* Ratio of N. C. Prices Received to U. S. Prices Paid.

FEED PRICES GENERALLY LOWER

Average prices paid by North Carolina farmers, for most feed items, registered price declines during the month ended November 15, 1955. Corn meal, all high protein feed, all poultry feed, and all mixed dairy feed, except 20 percent protein, were below the October level. Bran,

middlings, and 20 percent protein were unchanged from the previous month.

Lower feed prices were primarily responsible for the increase in the poultry feed-price ratio.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	N. C.		U. S.
		OCT. 15	NOV. 15	NOV. 15
		1955	1955	1955
		DOLLARS		
TOBACCO.....	LB.	.552	.513	.525
CORN.....	BU.	1.31	1.08	1.09
WHEAT.....	BU.	1.95	1.92	1.94
OATS.....	BU.	.79	.80	.605
BARLEY.....	BU.	1.11	1.11	.919
RYE.....	BU.	2.04	1.95	.897
SORGHUM GRAINS...	CWT.	1.95	2.05	1.67
SOYBEANS.....	BU.	2.20	2.06	2.06
PEANUTS.....	LB.	.130	.125	.117
COTTON.....	LB.	.315	.310	.3242
COTTONSEED.....	TON	38.00	37.00	44.30
WOOL.....	LB.	.48	.46	.39
HOGS.....	CWT.	15.60	13.80	12.20
BEEF CATTLE.....	CWT.	12.00	11.10	14.10
VEAL CALVES.....	CWT.	18.20	16.80	15.70
SHEEP.....	CWT.	4.70	4.90	5.37
LAMBS.....	CWT.	18.40	18.40	17.20
MILK COWS.....	HD.	95.00	93.00	144.00
CHICKENS, ALL....	LB.	.204	.200	.200
COM'L BROILERS...	LB.	.205	.200	.215
TURKEYS.....	LB.	.300	.300	.303
EGGS.....	DOZ.	.527	.530	.434
MILK, WHLSE. 1/...	CWT.	5.70 2/	5.80 3/	4.42
RETAIL 4/.....	QT.	.220	.220	.210
BUTTERFAT.....	LB.	.48	.49	.572
POTATOES.....	BU.	1.25	1.35	.829
SWEETPOTATOES....	BU.	2.10	2.20	1.68
APPLES, COM'L....	BU.	2.75	2.70	2.48
LESPEDEZA SEED...	CWT.	20.60	8.70	6.86
KOREAN.....	CWT.	18.00	7.40	.
KOBE.....	CWT.	24.00	10.00	.
COM. & TENN....	CWT.	25.00	15.00	.
SERICEA.....	CWT.	27.00	12.50	.
HAY, ALL BALED 5/	TON	31.10	30.60	20.80
ALFALFA HAY.....	TON	37.00	38.00	22.30
LESPEDEZA HAY...	TON	32.50	31.20	22.90
SOYBEAN AND				
COWPEA HAY.....	TON	30.00	28.30	27.00
PEANUT VINE.....	TON	22.90	20.80	20.50
OTHER.....	TON	30.00	30.50	.

1/ Estimated average prices for the month for all milk sold at wholesale to plants and dealers.

2/ Revised.

3/ Preliminary.

4/ Sold by farmers direct to consumers.

5/ The all hay price is the weighted average of separate kinds including an allowance for minor kinds.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

FEED PER HUNDREDWEIGHT	N. C.		U. S.	
	OCT. 15	NOV. 15	OCT. 15	NOV. 15
	1955	1955	1955	1955
<i>-DOLLARS-</i>				
Mixed Dairy Feed				
Under 29% Protein				
All.....	3.80	3.75	3.65	3.62
16% Protein.....	3.65	3.60	3.58	3.55
18% Protein.....	3.75	3.65	3.63	3.59
20% Protein.....	3.95	3.95	3.84	3.80
24% Protein.....	4.15	4.05	4.05	3.99
29% & Over.....	4.55	4.45	4.40	4.30
High Protein Feeds				
Linseed Meal.....	-	-	4.47	4.43
Soybean Meal.....	4.45	4.20	4.32	4.07
Cottonseed Meal..	3.50	3.35	3.81	3.71
Meat Scrap.....	4.75	4.65	4.98	4.80
Grain By-Products				
Bran.....	3.35	3.35	2.87	2.85
Middlings.....	3.65	3.65	3.04	3.00
Corn Meal.....	4.50	4.20	3.41	3.29
Corn Gluten.....	-	-	3.24	3.21
Poultry Feed...				
Laying Mash.....	4.85	4.70	4.47	4.38
Scratch Grain....	4.25	4.10	4.01	3.94
Broiler Growing				
Mash.....	5.00	4.90	4.88	4.77
Poultry Ration 1/	3.92	3.72	3.44	3.36

1/ Average of prices paid for commercial feeds and prices received for grain.

LOCAL MARKET POULTRY FEED-PRICE RATIOS

POULTRY FEED	N. C.		U. S.	
	OCT.	NOV.	OCT.	NOV.
	1955	1955	1955	1955
PRICE RATIO 1/				
Egg-Feed				
(Poultry Ration)	13.4	14.2	12.5	12.9
Farm				
Chicken Feed 2/	5.1	5.4	5.3	5.3
Broiler-Feed				
(Broiler Mash)	4.1	4.1	4.6	4.5
Turkey Feed 2/	7.7	8.1	9.2	9.0

1/ Pounds of feed equal in value to one dozen eggs, one pound farm chickens, one pound broilers and one pound turkeys.

2/ Poultry ration.

AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY FARMERS FOR CLOTHING

ITEMS	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		June 15 1955	Sept. 15 1955	Sept. 15 1954	June 15 1955	Sept. 15 1955	Sept. 15 1954
- <u>DOLLARS</u> -							
Suits, wool, 1 pair pants...	Each	41.00	40.50	41.00	42.40	42.40	42.40
Extra trousers, woolen.....	Pair	10.00	10.50	10.50	11.00	10.90	10.90
Trousers, cotton.....	Pair	3.85	3.75	3.65	3.83	3.80	3.83
Overalls.....	Pair	3.30	3.30	3.35	3.31	3.32	3.33
Shirts, cotton work.....	Each	2.10	2.15	2.10	1.81	1.84	1.83
Socks, cotton work.....	Pair	.31	.32	.31	.301	.304	.301
Undershirts.....	Each	.66	.67	.66	.638	.643	.636
Shorts.....	Each	.77	.78	.77	.769	.767	.758
Shoes, work, men's.....	Pair	6.70	6.80	6.70	6.90	6.99	6.95
Boots, rubber knee-length...	Pair	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.22	6.26	6.15
Dresses, house, percale.....	Each	3.20	3.10	3.00	3.10	3.14	3.07
Rayon panties.....	Pair	.60	.65	.60	.616	.620	.617
Shoes or oxfords, women's...	Pair	5.40	5.40	5.10	5.37	5.42	5.38
Muslin, unbleached 36'' wide	Yard	.28	.28	.28	.297	.296	.301
Percale, 36'' wide.....	Yard	.48	.48	.48	.457	.458	.456

CLOTHING PRICES HIGHER

North Carolina farmers were paying slightly more for most clothing items on September 15, 1955 than they were on the same date a year earlier. Cotton trousers, shirts, and socks, undershirts, shorts, men and womens shoes, dresses and rayon panties all registered slight increases from the previous year. These increased prices were offset to some extent by lower prices being paid for men's suits, overalls and rubber boots. Woolen trousers, unbleached muslin and percale were the same on both dates. (See the accompanying table for the prices with comparisons.)

MOST FURNITURE PRICES DOWN OR UNCHANGED

Average prices paid by North Carolina farmers for most furniture items on September 15, 1955 were below or on the same level as those paid on the same date a year earlier. Axminster rugs, felt base rugs, dining room suites, and bedroom suites were costing farmers slightly less in 1955. Living room suites, bedsteads, mattresses, stoves, washing machines, and refrigerators were unchanged from September 15, 1954. Compared to the previous quarter most furniture items made slight increases. (See the table below for these comparisons.)

AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY FARMERS FOR FURNITURE

ITEMS	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		June 15	Sept. 15	Sept. 15	June 15	Sept. 15	Sept. 15
		1955	1955	1954	1955	1955	1954
		- <u>DOLLARS</u> -					
Rugs, Axminster 9' x 12'....	Each	74.00	72.00	75.00	80.50	80.20	80.90
Rugs, felt base 9' x 12'....	Each	12.00	11.50	12.00	11.40	11.40	11.30
Dining-room suits.....	Each	240.00	240.00	250.00	251.00	253.00	253.00
Living-room suits.....	Each	150.00	155.00	155.00	187.00	188.00	187.00
Bedroom suits.....	Each	155.00	160.00	165.00	178.00	180.00	178.00
Bedsteads, metal double....	Each	15.50	16.00	16.00	16.30	16.50	15.90
Mattresses 54''felted cotton	Each	27.00	27.00	27.00	23.10	23.20	23.30
Bed springs, double sagless..	Each	19.50	20.50	19.50	19.90	20.10	19.90
Kitchen cabinets.....	Each	60.00	61.00	60.00	59.10	58.90	59.30
Stoves, 6-hole kitchen ranges	Each	105.00	110.00	110.00	120.00	119.00	116.00
Washing machine, wringer type electric.....	Each	135.00	140.00	140.00	136.00	137.00	136.00
Refrigerators, elec. (9 Cu. Ft.) <u>1</u> /.....	Each	270.00	270.00	270.00	272.00	264.00	280.00

1/ Prices previously reported for 8 cu. ft. capacity.

OCTOBER SLAUGHTER LESS THAN A YEAR AGO

Livestock slaughtered for commercial purposes in North Carolina during October amounted to 24,973,000 pounds liveweight. This was short of the record October slaughter established in 1954 at 26,357,000 pounds, by 1,384,000 pounds or 5.3 percent. Slaughter of cattle and calves totaled 12,868,000 pounds, down 1,532,000 pounds from comparable slaughter last year. Sheep and lambs slaughtered weighed 9,000 pounds as compared to the 8,000 pounds butchered October a year ago. Hog slaughter at 12,096,000 pounds for the month also showed an increase over that for October of 1954 which was estimated at 11,949,000 pounds.

Total slaughter for January through October of 1955 totaled 238,756,000 pounds liveweight as compared to 224,777,000 for the same period in 1954.

UNITED STATES

The October production of red meat in commercial livestock slaughter plants totaled 2,323 million pounds. This was 4 percent more than the 2,230 million pounds produced in September and 10 per-

cent more than the 2,120 million pounds in October 1954. Commercial meat production includes slaughter in Federally inspected plants and other wholesale and retail plants, but excludes farm slaughter.

Total commercial meat production for the 10-month period January-October this year totaled 20,682 million pounds, 7 percent above the output of 19,336 million pounds during the corresponding 10-month period a year ago.

October cattle slaughter estimated at 2,278,800 head was 4 percent less than the 2,372,600 slaughtered a month earlier, but was 3 percent more than the 2,206,700 slaughtered a year earlier. Beef production in October totaled 1,173 million pounds, 3 percent less than September but 8 percent more than October a year ago.

The number of calves slaughtered during October totaled 1,160,700 head, slightly less than the 1,162,100 killed in September and 4 percent less than the 1,211,400 head killed in October 1954. Veal output for October totaled 142 million pounds, 3 percent less than a month earlier and 7 percent less than a year earlier.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER *

Species	OCTOBER				JANUARY THROUGH OCTOBER			
	Number Slaughtered		Total Liveweight		Number Slaughtered		Total Liveweight	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
	<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>		<i>Thous. Head</i>		<i>Thous. Lbs.</i>	
N. C. Cattle	17.0	16.0	13,351	11,871	127.3	136.9	98,320	104,489
Calves	5.7	5.3	1,049	997	55.0	54.1	9,791	9,961
Sheep & Lambs	.1	.1	8	9	1.1	1.1	99	93
Hogs	55.0	60.0	11,949	12,096	542.0	578.0	116,567	124,213
TOTAL	77.8	81.4	26,357	24,973	725.4	770.1	224,777	238,756
U. S.	<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>		<i>Million Head</i>		<i>Million Lbs.</i>	
Cattle	2.2	2.3	2,017	2,159	20.8	21.4	19,169	20,051
Calves	1.2	1.2	279	256	10.5	10.3	2,339	2,246
Sheep & Lambs	1.5	1.4	134	132	13.3	13.6	1,262	1,307
Hogs	6.2	7.2	1,434	1,635	50.4	57.7	12,121	13,733
TOTAL	11.1	12.1	3,864	4,182	95.0	103.0	34,891	37,337

* Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other wholesale and retail slaughter; excludes farm slaughter.

COMMODITY HIGHLIGHTS(Continued)

a larger crop, storage holdings of potatoes on January 1, 1956 are expected to be larger than a year ago; indications are that growers in Florida and Texas will increase the acreage of potatoes for 1956 winter harvest compared with the average a year earlier

Wheat supplies for the 1955-56 marketing year are estimated at 1,941 million bushels, a record and 65 million above last year. The rice carryover jumped from 7.6 million hundredweight last year to 26.7 million on August 1 this year. As a result, acreage allotments

in 1956 will be cut 15 percent below this year's allotment. Rye acreage seeded in 1956 is expected to be about the same as the 1955 acreage of 2.1 million.

The supply of cotton in the United States is now estimated at 25.8 million bales compared with the previous record of 24.6 million bales set in 1939-40. The carryover at the end of the 1955-56 season will probably set a new record. Exports are down sharply from a year earlier; August and September exports were far below August last year and indications are that shipments continued to run well below a year ago in October.

AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY FARMERS FOR SPECIFIED FOOD ITEMS

ITEMS	UNIT	NORTH CAROLINA			UNITED STATES		
		June 15 1955	Sept. 15 1955	Sept. 15 1954	June 15 1955	Sept. 15 1955	Sept. 15 1954
CENTS							
Sugar.....	Per 10 Lbs.	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.03	1.03	1.04
Flour.....	Per 25 Lbs.	2.05	2.00	2.00	2.16	2.13	2.10
Bread, White.....	Per Lb.	18.2	18.6	18.1	17.3	17.3	17.1
Corn Meal.....	Per Lb.	6.8	6.6	6.4	7.5	7.5	7.5
Rolled Oats Packaged	Per Lb.	15.8	15.8	15.5	14.3	14.2	13.8
Rice.....	Per Lb.	19.8	-	-	18.3	-	-
Bacon.....	Per Lb.	55	57	67	56.3	57.1	67.6
Round Steak.....	Per Lb.	75	75	73	78.1	78.9	77.3
Lard.....	Per Lb.	21.6	21.4	27	20.2	19.8	26.3
Butter.....	Per Lb.	75	75	74	70.2	71.1	69.0
Cheese, American....	Per Lb.	57	57	58	56.0	56.3	55.7
Coffee.....	Per Lb.	90	90	1.10	90.8	91.2	1.12
Tea, Orange Pekoe...	Per Lb.	1.50	-	-	1.54	-	-
Oranges, 216' s.....	Per Doz.	36	46	51	48.1	51.0	58.0
Bananas.....	Per Lb.	15.1	15.1	14.5	17.4	17.5	16.9
Apples, Fresh.....	Per Lb.	15.4	13.2	11.7	17.9	14.3	14.2
Lemons, 360' s.....	Per Doz.	40	40	40	48.5	48.8	48.5

SOME FOOD PRICES UP

OTHERS DOWN

Prices paid by North Carolina farmers for some food items on September 15, 1955 were above those paid a year earlier while, several other items were costing less than on September 15, 1954. The increase in price of most grain products, steak, butter, bananas, and apples was more than offset by lower prices for oranges, coffee, cheese, lard and bacon. Sugar, flour, and lemons remained on the same level as September 1954. (See the table above for these comparisons and for the average prices paid by U. S. farmers for comparable items.)

POULT OPERATIONS

The number of heavy breed poults hatched during October totaled 161,000 compared with 61,000 in October last year. The number of heavy breed eggs in incubators on November 1 totaled 490,000 compared with 241,000 on November 1 last year. Light breed poults hatched during October totaled 311,000 compared with 675,000 in October last year. The number of light breed turkey eggs in incubators on November 1 totaled 777,000 compared with 1,530,000 on November 1 last year. Hatchings of turkey poults are now rising from the low point in the annual hatching cycle and will continue to rise during the next few months, reaching their seasonal peak in April or May of 1956.

UNITED STATES LESPEDEZA SEED CROP LARGEST IN 6 YEARS

With larger prospective crops this year than last in all fifteen producing States, the 1955 production of lespedeza seed is forecast at 181,420,000 pounds of clean seed. This would be the largest crop since 1949, more than twice last year's small production of 84,830,000 pounds and 10 percent larger than the 1944-53 average of 164,340,000 pounds. Largest increases over last year's production are indicated for South Carolina and Georgia.

Because of relatively high prices received by growers for lespedeza seed during the last three years, favorable weather for seed production, ample supplies of hay, good condition of pastures, and the small carry-over of seed, growers indicated they would harvest the largest acreage of seed in six years. This year's acreage is estimated at 942,000 compared with 576,500 acres last year and the ten-year average of 846,720 acres. All States except Indiana expect to harvest a larger acreage this year than last.

Although freezes in March thinned some stands and the drought of last year persisted this year in some sections, prospective yields in all States except Kentucky are larger than in 1954. This year's estimated yield of 193 pounds compares with the low yield of 147 pounds last year and the average of 191 pounds.

Harvesting in the three largest producing States began at about the same time this year as last but elsewhere it averaged about 4 days earlier than last year. Generally speaking, harvesting was about 3 days later than usual. Dates on which harvesting began or was expected to begin averaged as follows: October 22-25 in Alabama and Mississippi; October 27-30 in Georgia, Virginia and Oklahoma; November 1-5 in North Carolina, Indiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, Missouri, Kentucky and Arkansas; and November 6-10 in Kansas, Illinois, and Maryland.

Carry-over of lespedeza on farms is estimated at 2,615,000 pounds -- chiefly in Missouri, North Carolina, and Kentucky. It is about 60 percent larger than that of last year but only about a third of the ten-year average.

Domestic disappearance of lespedeza seed during the 1954-55 season is estimated at 80,413,000 pounds, compared with the 83,771,000 pounds in the pre-

ceding season and the ten-year average of 170,493,300 pounds.

Current supply of lespedeza seed, including estimated production this year and carry-over as of June 30, 1955, is 188,068,000 pounds. This is more than twice that of last year and slightly more than average.

LESPEDEZA SEED

	Average 1944- 1953	1954	Prelimi- nary 1955
N. C.			
Acreage			
Harvested			
yield Per	158,200	126,000	175,000
Acre, Lbs.	202	130	190
Production*			
Thous. Lbs.	32,028	16,380	33,250
U. S.			
Acreage			
Harvested			
yield Per	846,720	576,500	942,000
Acre, Lbs.	191	147	193
Production*			
Thous. Lbs.	164,340	84,830	181,420

* Clean seed.

OCTOBER HATCH HIGHEST OF RECORD FOR THE MONTH

North Carolina's commercial hatcheries produced an estimated 7,132,000 chicks during October. This was about 7 percent above the 5,239,000 chicks produced during the same month a year earlier and is the highest October production of record.

Chick production during the first 10 months of 1955 has totaled 79,136,000, about 17 percent above production for the comparable period a year earlier which totaled 67,384,000.

For the United States, also, commercial hatchery production during October was the largest of record for the month. The number of chick produced totaled 107,796,000 compared with 86,422,000 during October last year and the 1949-53 average of 81,171,000. The previous high production in October was 97,944,000 chicks produced in October 1953. Of the chicks hatched, 92,150,000 were produced for broilers and 15,646,000 were produced for other purposes. The demand for chicks, particularly for broiler chicks, is strong and a record or near-record November hatch is in prospect as the number of eggs in incubators on November 1 was 25 percent larger than a year earlier.

FARM REPORT

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Agricultural Estimates Division
S. R. Newell, Director

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COMPARISON OF PRICES RECEIVED BY U. S. FARMERS AND PARITY PRICES

COMMODITY	PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS		PARITY OR COMPARABLE PRICES ^{1/}		AVERAGE PRICES AS PERCENTAGE OF PARITY	
	Oct. 15 1955	Nov. 15 1955	Oct. 15 1955	Nov. 15 1955	Oct. 15 1955	Nov. 15 1955
	<u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>DOLLARS</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
Cotton, Lb.....	.3283	.3242	.3497	.3497	94	93
Wheat, Bu.....	1.94	1.94	2.49	2.49	78	78
Corn, Bu.....	1.14	1.09	1.81	1.81	63	60
Oats, Bu.....	.591	.605	.854	.851	69	71
Barley, Bu.....	.909	.919	1.33	1.33	68	69
Rye, Bu.....	.926	.897	1.66	1.66	56	54
Beef Cattle, Cwt....	15.30	14.10	21.10	21.10	73	67
Hogs, Cwt.....	14.50	12.20	21.10	21.10	69	58
Lambs, Cwt.....	17.40	17.20	23.20	23.10	75	74
Chickens, All, Lb...	.204	.200	.288	.287	71	70
Eggs, Doz.....	.429	.434	.459	.458	82 ^{5/}	83 ^{5/}
Milk, Whlse. Cwt. ^{2/}	4.35 ^{3/}	.442 ^{4/}	4.65	4.63	88 ^{5/}	88 ^{5/}

- ^{1/} Effective parity prices as computed currently in months indicated using base period prices and indexes then in effect.
^{2/} Estimated average price for the month for all milk sold at wholesale to plants and dealers.
^{3/} Revised.
^{4/} Preliminary.
^{5/} Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices.